

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet, which includes Figs. 1 and 2 replaces the original sheet including Figs. 1 and 2. In Fig. 1, the reference "PB6" has been amended to read "PH6".

Attachment: Replacement sheet

### REMARKS

In the office action, the drawings were objected to because in Figure 1 "PB6" referencing the rotor head-side connection point should be "PH6". In addition, claim 32 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 19 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Taylor, et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,108,641.

In this response, Fig. 1 and claim 32 have been amended.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

#### Objections to the Drawings:

The drawings were objected to because in Figure 1 "PB6" referencing the rotor head-side connection point should be "PH6".

Applicants have amended Fig. 1 to change the reference "PB6" to "PH6" as suggested by the Examiner.

Withdrawal of the objections to the drawings is respectfully requested.

#### Objections to the Claims:

The numbering of claims were objected to for not being numbered consecutively. The Examiner has treated misnumbered claim 39 as being claim 38. The listing of claims attached hereto has renumbered claim 39 from the preliminary amendment as claim 38.

#### Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112:

Claim 32 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Applicants have amended claim 32 to delete the more specific alternative references to "in particular a helicopter, in particular a tiltrotor helicopter, while maintaining solely the broader term "rotorcraft".

Withdrawal of the rejections to claim 32 is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b):

Claims 19 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated Taylor, et al..

Taylor et al. describes a conventional centrifugally actuated control system for changing the pitch of a helicopter rotor, which changes the pitch in accordance with the rate of rotation of the rotor.

Independent claim 19 recites a rotorcraft rotor that includes, among other features, "a rotor-head-end rotor-blade connector having an integral, bearingless, centrifugal-force-controlled blade angle adjustment device."

Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has not asserted that Taylor et al. describes at least the feature of a rotor-blade connector having an integral, bearingless, blade angle adjustment device as recited in independent claim 19. Applicants further more submit that Taylor et al. does not describe this feature. On the contrary, Taylor et al. describes a control system, shown in Figs. 2-7, that depends on one or more bearings in order to function. See, for example, pivot support member 38 in Figs. 2 and 3, pivot point 36a in Figs. 4 and 5, pivot clevis 36 in Figs. 6 and 7. Taylor et al. thus fails to describe either a bearingless rotor blade connector or a bearingless blade angle adjustment device, but instead merely describes a conventional control system having bearings to control the pitch of a helicopter rotor blade by pivoting the rotor blade about a pivot point.

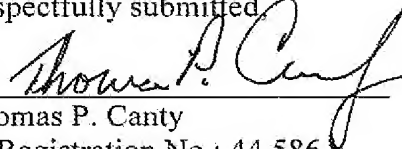
Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 19 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is respectfully requested.

**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Replacement sheet 1/1